



Parental permission form:

Each week, children in your school will rinse for about one minute with 10 mL of a 0.2% sodium fluoride mouth rinse solution. Please sign below and indicate whether you would like your child to participate in this program. Tear off this permission form and have your child return it to his or her school.

- ☐ I want my child to participate
- ☐ I do not want my child to participate

Child's Name (Please print)

Parent's or Guardian's Signature

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



SCHOOL FLUORIDE MOUTH RINSE
PROGRAM

School Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program

Your child's school will be participating in the Mississippi Department of Health (MDH) School Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program.

This is a free program sponsored by MDH and your local school district for grades one through five. Over 100,000 children in Mississippi have already benefited from this program.

What is fluoride?

Fluoride is a naturally-occurring mineral found in almost all water, including the ocean. Fluoride binds to tooth enamel making it harder and more resistant to the acids that cause tooth decay. Fluoride also acts to repair, or remineralize, areas in which acid attacks have already begun, and may help stop the growth of bacteria that cause cavities.

How is my school eligible to participate?

Schools with 30 percent or more of their students participating in the Free and Reduced Price Lunch Program located in communities with low levels of fluoride in the public water supply may participate.

How does it work?

Once a week your child will rinse out his or her mouth with a harmless fluoride solution. Your child will not swallow the solution, and school personnel

trained by registered dental hygienists will supervise the entire process. Used as directed, the fluoride mouth rinse is safe and has no side effects.

Why should my child participate in this program?

This program can help protect your child's teeth from tooth decay. In the United States, children lose an estimated 51 million school hours a year due to dental problems like cavities. Almost three out of four school-age children in Mississippi have experienced tooth decay, and almost 40 percent have untreated tooth decay at nine years of age. Untreated dental problems can also lead to difficulties eating and speaking properly.

Allow your child to participate in the School Fluoride Mouth Rinse Program. Sign and return the attached permission form today.

How can I find out more information?

Mississippi Department of Health
Office of Dental Services
Post Office Box 1700
Jackson, Mississippi 39215-1700
601-576-7500
www.HealthyMS.com/dental